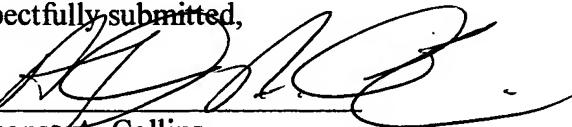


REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending. Claims 3-8, and 11-16 have been amended to remove multiple claim dependencies. Entry of the above Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested prior to the examination of this application. If there are any questions regarding this Preliminary Amendment or this application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this would expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

Dated: November 7, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Alphonso A. Collins

Registration No.: 43,559
DARBY & DARBY P.C.
P.O. Box 5257
New York, New York 10150-5257
(212) 527-7700
(212) 753-6237 (Fax)
Attorneys/Agents For Applicant